

THE ST. JOSEPH OBSERVER

FRANK FREYTAG
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DEMOCRATIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

I hereby announce myself as a
candidate for Member of Congress from
the Fourth Congressional District of
Missouri, subject to the primary elec-
tion, August 8, 1916.

ROBERT L. YOUNG

THE CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE

Not since the assembling of con-
gress at the beginning of the last half
of President Buchanan's incumbency
or the first congress which Lincoln
convened when he assumed the reins
of government, has a Congress assem-
bled with such grave responsibilities
and confronted with such an imper-
ious demand for patriotism as in the
sixty-fourth, which convened last
week and which with today begins the
real active work of the session.There is no gainsaying the fact that
there has been with many a disposi-
tion to look with apprehension upon
this gathering of the people's repre-
sentatives. This was based on the
theory that the legislators met in this
critical time might be, and lacking in
wisdom, self-control or discretion, and
that the result would be things said,
or done, that would add enormously
to the difficulties experienced by the
executive department in the effort to
steer this country in safety and honor
through wildly tempestuous waters.
There has been a feeling, in a word,
that President Wilson and his cabinet
advisers could do better, that the
country would be better off if they did
not "have congress on their hands."Manifestation of such a feeling does
little honor to the theory of representa-
tive government. It is a confession
of distrust in democracy and democ-
ratic institutions. Congress, of the
three branches of our government, is
indeed the people, it most directly
responsible to them, presumably will
be quickest to respond to the popular
will and carry it into execution. It is
in the Congress, rather than in the
executive and the courts, that the prin-
ciple of democracy expresses itself. It
is Congress—a body of the people's
elected representatives possessing and
exercising real power—that distin-
guishes self-government from auto-
cratic government. It is Congress that
crystallizes the popular will into law,
which law the executive is directed by
the fundamental law to sustain and
enforce.In a free and representative govern-
ment it is the supreme duty of the
people to put their faith in the insti-
tution that is the popular law-making
body, by whatever name it may be
called. And it is equally the supreme
duty of the Congress to discharge its
duty with such singleminded patriot-
ism, with such courage and wisdom,
as will justify faith in it and vindi-
cate that form of government in which
the people really rule. The nearer
the peril, the more momentous the
duties to be performed, the graver the
crisis, the greater is the need, as we
must concede if we be indeed Demo-
crats, that the direct representatives
of the people be on hand to bear their
full share of the responsibility.There is not a question but that the
chief executive of the United States,
Woodrow Wilson, is a Democrat who
believes in democracy, who has faith
in the people, and who strives un-
flinchingly to serve them according to their
will. He is too good a Democrat to
resent or fear "having congress on his
hands." He believes in the wisdom of
common counsel, and is keenly aware
of imperative national needs that
await upon congressional action for
fulfillment. While those who distrust
popular government are in an internal
tremor over the assembling of con-
gress, President Wilson, we may be
sure, welcomes it for the relief it will
give him and the assistance it will
bring. Through many heart-breaking
months he has stood practically alone
in charge of our government. The
great mass of the people whom he
serves, though their sympathies and
support have been with him, have had
poor opportunity to make the felt di-
rectly known. They will make it
known now, through the Congress they
have provided. There may be dis-
cussion among their chosen representa-
tives, men disposed to play politics
with problems of the most serious im-
port, to exalt partisanship above pa-
triotism, to embarrass the president
rather than sustain him in the dis-
charge of his own particular duties.
The patriotism and good sense of the
American people may be trusted to
rebuke such representatives as they
deserve. The people admire independ-ence and courage in their representa-
tives without which there can be no
true representation to the people. But
they are quick in discerning
between what is genuine and
what is sham. They can discriminate
between honest differences due to con-
flicting opinions of what constitutes
patriotic duty and real public service,
and differences manufactured for the
occasion purely to serve what is in-
ferred to be partisan advantage.Therefore, it is that this newspaper
has confidence—and this with the
greatest respect for President Wilson
and his cabinet advisers—that the
government at Washington will be
enlightened and strengthened by the as-
sembling of Congress. It has confidence
in representative government
enough to believe that in such critical
times as these the great majority of
congressmen and senators, Republi-
cans and Democrats and Democrats
alike, will be inspired and guided by
love of country more than by regard
for party. It has sufficient confidence
in the people to believe that the truth
and democracy and self-sacrifice
will be detected and stripped of their
influence. And it has faith in the
experience which rules over this re-
public to believe that from the delib-
erations and actions of the Congress at
this time in these days when civiliza-
tion itself seems tottering on its founda-
tions will come results of enduring
worth to the nation and to the world.

GONE DIPPY ON THE TARIFF

About the only way that one can
put it without being decidedly offen-
sive is to say that a great many writ-
ers in the East seem to have gone
"dippy" on the question of the tariff,
for the arguments which they put up
are as wild as one would hear out at
State Hospital No. 2. Just as an ex-
ample, one of them seriously writes:
"The moment the war ends the pa-
cific will suddenly pour upon us millions
of goods at prices so low, and there-
fore, we must build up a tariff which
this demand upon them, when released,
will reach the point of our tariff wall."Is there a single nation out at Bor-
ne, Timor or a hospital that can or
would talk more rationally than this?
Possibly this wildly excited
writer has never read the report of
that French expedition which has
just been made public by H. that
it will take at least three and perhaps
five years after the war for the im-
portation of that country to be put
upon their feet again so as to compare
with what they were when the war
broke out. The other belligerent na-
tions will be in the same condition
and it will be at least three years be-
fore they can manufacture any great
amount of goods to pour in upon us.
Or do these men imagine that these
nations now have "oceans of goods"
stored up ready to ship? They cer-
tainly did not have any great un-
doubtedly amounts when the war broke out
and most of them have been in sore straits
for labor and raw material to manu-
facture goods to supply themselves for
the last two years. Could there be
worse madness than the talk that
"suddenly at the close of the war"
goods will be poured in upon us?And another feature of their argu-
ment that is just as wildly wild is
that we must "make a tariff moun-
tain high to keep out foreign goods."
Could anything be more wildly ridicu-
lous, for would not such an act
entirely destroy our foreign trade? How
can we sell goods to foreign nations
unless we take goods in exchange?
We now have a large part of the gold
that they own and will have more of
it. How can they buy goods? What
gold they had left would soon be ex-
hausted, and then there would be no
possibility of selling them more goods.
The high tariff scheme would be the
destruction of the business of this
country. Our factories would produce
no more than could be sold at home.
Some mills would slow down. Em-
ployees would be discharged. Other
mills would close entirely and we
would have the same condition that
we always have had at the end of
every high tariff. Meantime foreign
governments would have time to re-
establish their industries and when we
came to our senses we would find that
they had captured the foreign trade
that had been offered to us free of
competition. This high tariff scheme
would come as a blow raining this
country as a foreign war, and those wil-
dely Republican tariff writers know
it as well as we do—but to tell the
truth would not answer their purpose.

THE HELL BREW OF EUROPE

In these terrible times in war-en-
gulfed Europe, "Hate and more hate"
is the hellish brew on which that
blood-swept country has been poison-
ed."Hate and more hate" is the most
pernicious evil overshadowing its fu-
ture when peace shall have come once
more to weary peoples.And "hate and more hate" trans-
planted from Europe—passion and
prejudice, a fratricidal division and
strife among our own citizens, with
Europe's rights and wrongs, not
America's rights and wrongs, as a
basis—it is this that is every daycreating a darker cloud to gather and
to obscure our own great republic. The
hills of it all is concealed only by the
appearance of it. It should be ours
to keep alive the light of reason—it
should be ours to spread tolerance and
to the tolerant, not only for Europe,
but with and against ourselves. A
nation divided against itself cannot
stand. We cannot hope to endure
half European and half American,
with the European half divided again
into halves, each half fighting the
other and each half more and more
disposed to a willingness that this re-
public must be liquidated and wronged
if only the result may be to help
Europe or Germany, as the case may
be. If Europe is disposed to remain
stable in the days of peace, let us
not emulate the fatal example by
committing suicide. In our turn, on
Europe's doorstep.BRYAN BALANCES TEDDY—VICA
VERSASince in this emergency we must
know Mr. Bryan, it is fortunate that
we also know Mr. Roosevelt. They
are enemies for each other. What
most misleads Mr. Bryan does in the
direction Mr. Roosevelt counteracts in
another.Mr. Bryan holds that the president
shall remain passive in Europe by moral
suasion. Mr. Roosevelt insists that
the president shall stir up at least
three more wars by attacking Mexico,
Germany and Turkey. Mr. Bryan
would disarm the United States. Mr.
Roosevelt would Presidentize the coun-
try by conscription.The violence and aggressiveness with
which these ideas are advanced might
be disconcerting if the two conten-
tions did not exactly balance each
other. Neither Mr. Bryan nor Mr.
Roosevelt has any responsibility in
the matter, and yet both issue orders
to President and Congress, as though
they were autocrats. To obey one is
to be down and let the aggressor
come on unhindered. To obey the
other is to go out in search of trouble
in both hemispheres.Between such alternatives it ought
to be possible for most Americans to
see that Mr. Wilson occupies strong
ground. He has never weakened any-
thing but, whereas both of his adver-
saries have at different times attacked
their own parties. He is charged with
serious duties which as president he
cannot ignore. They are committed
to action and self-advancing, with
a firm grip upon nothing but the main
chance.Mr. Bryan is ambitious enough to be
a candidate for president. Mr. Roose-
velt is ambitious always to be presi-
dent. The country is fortunate in-
deed in having a president whom
neither of them can bully.

PUT THE TAX ON WAR MATERIAL

It probably has occurred to others
that in President Wilson's excellent
discussion of preparedness in his mes-
sage to Congress, that there are two
details that it seems that he should
have mentioned, which, however,
whether he mentioned them or not,
will have the serious consideration of
the lawmakers.This thing is certain, however, and
that is that the profits should be taken
out of preparedness. Greed for pri-
vate gain on the part of the manu-
facturers of war munitions should not
be allowed to remain as a powerful
incentive toward overarmament. The
government can manufacture its own
materials for army and navy uses at
a great deal cheaper than the price ex-
acted by private corporations, and to
a small extent is now doing so. The
preparation of government manufacture
of these products should be increased
just as rapidly as is reasonably pos-
sible. It is to be hoped that, though
he failed to give this policy mention
in his address, the president will give
it the support of his powerful influ-
ence later.In his suggestions of sources of tax-
ation from which could be raised the
funds to defray the cost of prepared-
ness the president failed to mention
one kind of product that, it seems to
us, could very appropriately be taxed.
So long as the private manufacture of
arms and ammunition is as extensive
as it is, and so vastly profitable, we
can see no reason why this industry
should not be taxed for this purpose.
It is practically the only industry that
profits directly from a policy of pre-
paredness. If special taxes must be
levied, what industry could more
fairly be called upon to "shell out"?It is worthy, at least, of considera-
tion, whether this tax should not also
be applied to fire arms and ammu-
nition manufactured for private use. A
tax on revolvers, for example, would
be less obnoxious and less discourag-
ing to legitimate industry than a tax
on structural steel. A tax on shot-
guns would be more nearly a tax on
a luxury, levied on those who can well
afford to pay, than a tax on gasoline.
Shotguns are used mostly for game
shooting—purely a luxury. Revolvers
are the direct instruments of crime
and disorder, and nine-tenths of the
output could be dispensed with to the
great good of the country. Since the
product is large, however, why would
it not be a proper subject for taxationat a time when the government is
looking around for means to raise
revenue that would not be oppressive?

Do your Christmas shopping now.

Mail your Christmas packages early.

It is time to begin to think of those
New Year's resolutions.St. Joseph witnesses its Republican
and Freer Club.It was fifty years—that expiring
of the St. Joseph Press Club by the
Republican Party.That five billion dollar crop raised
in these good old United States this
year has put the everlasting kibosh to
that familiar old Republican song that
for a w. p. makes the sun to shine
and the rain to fall.It is a pity for the state that it
did not capture the G. & P. con-
vention, but probably it is best that the
more gets it again, for it will repeat
the story begun three years ago
—the tale of the Republican Way-
lon.Do not forget the poor on Christ-
mas.St. Joseph's streets were no place
for a "wobbler" Wednesday.It is noticeable that the Republican
press lunch waited until after Con-
gressman Hooper left for his place of
duty before beginning that hostile
demonstration against him.Uncle Jawn is getting ready to
make Christmas presents. He jumped
up the price of gasoline a cent per
gallon Monday.Majah Wahnah is telling the people
of the virtues of Herby Hadley.
Most Massonians know too much about
him now.The whole Republican party would
like to know what Teddy intends to
do—and do who.They tickets for a worthy cause—
for the poor children's benefit at the
Electric Theater next Wednesday."Weather Prophet" Fielden ad-
dressed the Commerce Club Wednes-
day, and immediately we had a spell
of rough weather.Dickey foresees literature is a
drug on the St. Joseph market.The Republican annex to the Lin-
coln club, the St. Joseph Press club,
will no doubt take an active part in
the campaign the coming summer, as
it is now in control of the Republican
rivers and manipulators.It is a pity that no organization
formulated for public good can keep
out of the clutches of the Republi-
can fixers—and thus go to its death.
The Germans have discovered syn-
thetic rubber and Chairman Hilges has
discovered a synthetic vote that will
elect a Republican President.Lack of snow may make this a black
winter in the United States, but that
is better than a red winter, such as
they are having in Europe.If the wolf tried to howl at the door
his voice would be drowned out by the
chorus of calamity howlers—a sound
most everyone has ceased to notice.Greece may as well be hospitable
about it, and turn her barns and
homes into hospitals for her visitors.Football is over, but cotton whisks
and decorations promise to keep the
ranks of victims full.Villa's army eats a steer for each
meal. Problem—how large is Villa's
army? It depends upon the size of the
steer.Ford's name has been filed for presi-
dent and Nebraska gets some more of
a strange kind of publicity.This story that Roosevelt is quietly
gathering 12,000 men will not be
credited by any one who heard him
getting the Rough Rider together.Perhaps Mr. Ford plans to disrupt
the armies by offering all the men jobs
in his factory.Switzerland has one advantage.
None of its ships are ever submerged,
or commandeered.We repeat what we said a year ago
about the best time to do your Christ-
mas shopping.To restore the situation in Europe,
Mr. Ford will not be like putting an
automobile together.Saloniki will be a Hellenic port in
more ways than one if the fighting
ever reaches there.Only 6 More Days to Select
Christmas Gifts

BUY YOUR GIFTS AT THE CHRISTMAS STORE

WE MAKE A FEW TIMELY SUGGESTIONS.

FOR THE DEAR CHILDREN

Dolls, a most attractive as-
sessment. Everything for the
doll's home.Toys, a wonderful variety,
Automobiles, Drums, Rail-
way trains, with and without
motors; Hobby Horses, Ani-
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American Model Builder, in
the different sizes.The Great "Tinker Toy."
These are both very instruc-
tive.

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Fine Furs, Kid Gloves,
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Electric Cook Stoves, a real
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will cook a nice dinner.

The Leader

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eral use, and the prices are far more moderate than the same
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FOR CHRISTMAS

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DIAMOND JEWELRYWe would be pleased to show you Diamonds of Quality
which will be cherished and guarded by the recipient for
years to come.Our Christmas Special \$20.00 Diamond Ring Is a Remark-
able Value. Other Diamonds up to \$500.

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Watch inspectors for St. Joseph & Grand Island Railway,
Santa Fe Railway, Chicago Great Western Railway, Chi-
cago, Rock Island & Pacific Railway

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

St. Joseph, Missouri, Dec. 17, 1915.

Pursuant to an order of the County
Court of Buchanan County, Missouri,
to me directed, sealed proposals will
be received for the following work at
11:00 o'clock a. m. in the County Court
Room at the Court House, in the City
of St. Joseph, County of Buchanan,
State of Missouri, on Friday, January
7, 1916.No. 158. Concrete culvert on Brock-
ett Road at McCordies, Section 21.

Twp. 58, Range 35.

Proposals for each piece of work
must be accompanied by cash or cer-
tified check to the amount of Twenty-
five Dollars (\$25.00) as a guarantee
of making accepted bond and contract
as required by law.Plans will be on file in the County
Highway Engineer's office.The right to reject any and all bids
is reserved.RAY L. CARGILL,
County Surveyor and Highway En-
gineer.